



S. 2371 – To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to make technical corrections

Floor Situation

S. 2371 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA) on November 13, 2007. The bill was referred to the Committee on the Education and Labor, but was not considered.

S. 2371 is scheduled to be considered on the floor on December 5, 2007.

Background

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act (H.R. 2669) was signed into law (P.L. 110-84) on September 27, 2007. ([Legislative Digest for the Conference Report to H.R. 2669](#))

The House of Representatives passed H.R. 4153, which provided for technical corrections and transition amendments to the College Cost Reduction and Access Act by voice vote on November 13, 2007.

On November 15, 2007, the Senate passed S. 2371 by unanimous consent.

**Note: The provisions included in S. 2371 were previously passed by the House in H.R. 4153.*

Summary

S. 2317 makes technical changes to P.L. 110-84 including:

- Clarifies the expansion of the exclusions under the definition of “untaxed income and benefits” to include the child tax credit, welfare benefits, the earned income credit, the amount of credit for Federal tax on special fuels, foreign income tax exclusion, and untaxed social security benefits.
- Creates a special rule for married borrowers who file a separate tax return so that the Secretary can calculate the borrower’s income-based repayment rate based solely on the borrower’s student loan debt and adjusted gross income.
- Makes technical corrections to the TEACH grant program.

**Note: The TEACH grant program provides tuition assistance to high-performing undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, and graduate students who commit to teaching a high-need subject in a high-need school for four years.*

Cost

A CBO cost estimate is not available at this time.

Staff Contact

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